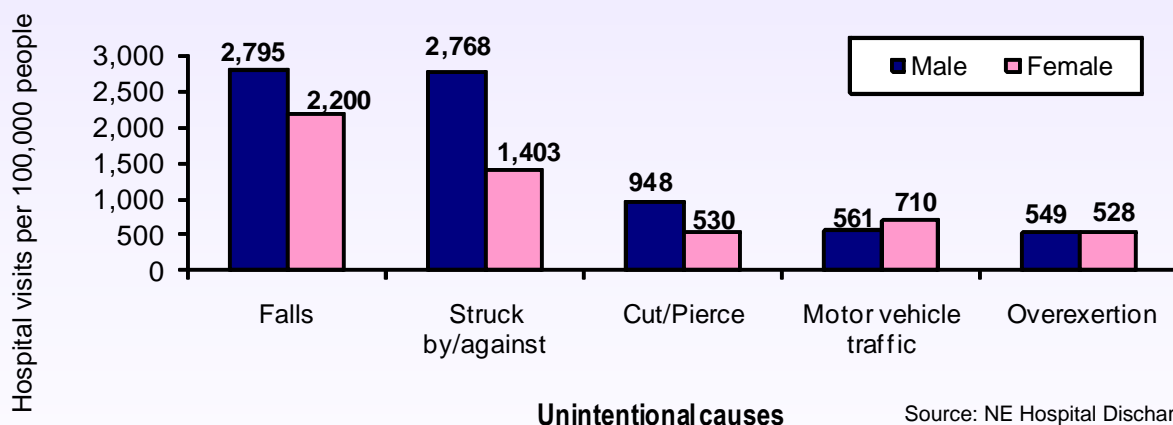


# CHILDHOOD INJURIES IN NEBRASKA

- **From 2003 to 2007, unintentional injury was the leading cause of death among Nebraska youth under 20 years old.** Deaths due to injury made up 35% of total deaths to Nebraska children; however, among 15 – 19 year olds, more than four-fifths (82%) of deaths were due to injuries.
- **Motor vehicle crashes were the leading cause of injury deaths among Nebraska children,** contributing to the deaths of 50 children each year, on average.
- **Falls were the most common cause of injury-related hospital visits among Nebraska children ages 0-19 years,** making up 28.5% of all hospital visits due to unintentional injury. Nearly half of fall injuries occurred in the home.
- **Being unintentionally struck by or against an object was the second leading cause of injury-related hospital visits for Nebraskans ages 0-19 years,** and the leading cause of injury-related hospital visits among children ages 10-19 years. Most of these were sports-related injuries.

**Many, if not most, injuries are preventable. Strategies to prevent injuries among children include: (1) parent and caregiver education; (2) proper use of technology, such as child safety seats, home safety devices, and sports equipment, and (3) legislation.**

Figure 1: Age-adjusted Unintentional Injury Hospital Visit Rates by Gender, Nebraska Residents Ages 0-19 years, 2003-2007 (n=6,522)



Source: NE Hospital Discharge Data, 2003-2007



For more information, contact the DHHS Injury Prevention and Control Program at (402) 471-2101 or visit [www.dhhs.ne.gov/hew/hpe/Injury](http://www.dhhs.ne.gov/hew/hpe/Injury)